

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. Claims 1-15 have been amended. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this and other applications. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks below, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Application No. 2003/0086697 to Kim et al. (“Kim”). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, recites an information recorder that includes “recording means for recording data accompanying user data in a Lead-Out area” (emphasis added). This feature is described, for example, in the specification at page 24, line 25 to page 25, line 8.

The Office Action (at page 3) points to Kim’s description at paragraph [0041] of “navigation information stored in the memory M1 [that] is recorded in the management data area of the OD” as meeting the (pre-amendment) claim 1 feature of “recording data accompanying user data in an area disposed outside a user data area.” However, nothing in the portion cited by the Office Action or any other portion of Kim teaches recording the navigation information in a Lead-Out area. Kim’s “management data area” is not described as being in “a Lead-Out area” of the disc. The Kim reference therefore fails to teach the above-noted feature of amended claim 1, namely “recording means for recording data accompanying user data in a Lead-Out area” (emphasis added).

For at least these reasons, Kim does not teach or suggest all features of claim 1. Claim 1 is therefore allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 2-15 depend from claim 1 or recite similar limitations as claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable. The rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance. If there are any additional charges in connection with this filing or any subsequent filings (including but not limited to issue fees), the Examiner is respectfully requested and authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1073 therefor under Order No. R2184.0502/P502.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
Mark J. Thronson

Registration No.: 33,082
Jonathan L. Falkler
Registration No.: 62,115
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP
1825 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-5403
(202) 420-2200
Attorneys for Applicant